

LONACONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

¹¹³
AL-VI-B-013

Lonaconing, Allegany County
ca. 1836 - 1920

Lonaconing is a surviving example of a 19th century coal town. It is spread unevenly through the George's Creek Valley and up the sides of the surrounding hills. The central business district is surrounded by narrow streets crowded with company houses. The same hills, which define the area geographically, originally provided the coal, which has been the town's life blood for over a century. Individually, Lonaconing's buildings are not great architectural monuments but collectively, they represent a unified example of a late 19th century industrial center that has remained unchanged in the face of the present century.

*See vertical file for additional photos

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See Instructions In How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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date entered

32

1. Name

historic Lonaconing

and/or common Lonaconing Historic District

2. Location

street & number Multiple

N/A not for publication

city, town Lonaconing _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Sixth

state Maryland code 24 county Allegany code 001

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Public and Private (approximately 220 parcels, most with multiple ownership)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Allegany County Courthouse

street & number 30 Washington Street

city, town Cumberland state Maryland 21502

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust
Historic Sites Inventory has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

year 1976-1981 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis, state Maryland 21401

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DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Lonaconing Historic District comprises 278 buildings and structures within the town of Lonaconing, located approximately 14 miles southwest of the county seat of Cumberland in Allegany County, Maryland. The district contains a variety of 19th and early 20th century commercial, industrial, and residential buildings which attest to the development of Lonaconing as a center of the iron, coal, and silk industries in the George's Creek valley of Western Maryland. The focus of the district is a group of 40 late 19th and early 20th century commercial structures lining Main Street and intersecting streets. These commercial resources include a hotel, bank, three dry goods stores, and numerous other shops and warehouses, mostly constructed in the aftermath of a fire which devastated downtown Lonaconing in 1881. These brick or frame, generally two-story buildings have undergone remarkably little alteration and in most cases retain their original storefronts, cornices, and other decorative detailing intact. Also included within the District are structures related to the industrial development of Lonaconing such as the ca. 1840 brick office building of the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company, and their Furnace No. 1. The Klots silk throwing mill, a long, two-story brick industrial building constructed in 1906 and expanded in 1918 and 1946, employed the wives of miners. Houses in the district include worker's housing built by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company in various materials and configurations from the mid- through late 19th century. The earliest of these houses are of log construction, either two-room cabins with stone chimneys which accommodated a single family, or duplexes. Double houses were often sheathed in board and batten siding, whether of log construction or, beginning in the 1880's, of frame. Still later duplexes are of frame construction, sheathed in German siding, with simple Victorian ornament. Other individual houses in the District, constructed of frame or brick, reflect Italianate, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival influences. Of the 278 buildings within the District, 231 or 83% contribute to its significance.

7. Description

AL-VI-B-113

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** (for DESCRIPTION SUMMARY, see Continuation Sheet #17)

Lonaconing is located approximately fourteen miles southwest of Cumberland, Allegany County, Maryland, on Route 36. George's Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River, runs in a southerly direction through the town. The town is laid out along Main Street which runs nearly parallel to the creek. The boundaries of the historic district intersect this central artery approximately one block west of West Main Street's intersection with Union Street and to the east along Main Street even with the intersection of Sioux Place and Rockville Street. The district includes the core of commercial buildings which form the geographic and social center of the town (roughly along Main Street between Union Street and Park Street and south to Railroad Avenue), and the surrounding residential streets (largely to the north of Main Street on either side of Church Street (photo 4), then east (32) past Douglas Avenue, Scotch Hill, and including the westernmost portions of Dutch Row and Furnace Street parallel to Main Street).

Though Lonaconing was incorporated as a town some thirty years earlier in the century, most of the commercial buildings in the center of town date from 1881-1900 owing to a major fire which eviscerated the downtown in 1881. The concentration of high quality commercial buildings which were constructed in the ensuing two or more decades ranges along Main Street from the Brady Hotel (2), (3), (9) eastward to the intersection of East Main and Scotch Hill (also known as Koontz Run) and south from the intersection of Union and West Main Streets (1) along Union Street across the railroad tracks continuing south on Jackson until the intrusion of a group of modern residences coincident with a decaying, abandoned frame store which bridges a stream offshoot of George's Creek. This core of commercial buildings represents about 40 structures, including a hotel, a bank, three dry goods merchants (one of which remains in operation), a bakery, a 5&10, a general store (with warehouse beside the railroad tracks), and numerous warehouses and shops--some retaining their original functions, some partially closed up but still accommodating a bar or small store. In general, the alterations to these structures are cosmetic but retrievable, or strictly functional (modern signs or first story shop fronts (13-16*). Since many of the significant buildings (described below) remain almost untouched, the completely convincing impression downtown Lonaconing conveys is that of a turn of the century, industrial-based town.

Further to the east of this solid collection of commercial buildings is the most visible and impressive evidence of Lonaconing's industry: George's Creek Coal and Iron Company's Furnace No. 1 (listed on the National Register, constructed circa 1840). The Furnace is now the centerpiece for a town park and playground whose parking lot replaces the Central High School (c. 1920, AL-VI-B-096) which sat on the north side of East Main Street between the Furnace and the road. Also constructed by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company is a brick office building (AL-VI-B-086) (photo 6), constructed circa 1840 at the nearby corner of Park Street as it branches off Main.

The other major industrial structure in Lonaconing, located southeast of the Furnace, is the Klots Throwing Company (AL-VI-B-087) (8), built in 1906 and expanded in 1918 and 1946. The Klots plant was one of two silk mills in Allegany County, employing mainly women whose husbands worked in the mines. The Klots operation processed raw silk into thread necessary for fabric.

*more description on north side of Main Street.

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The residential sections of the Lonaconing district occur mostly north of Main Street, along Church Street (until it forks), along Douglas Avenue (until its intersection with a side street to the east), up Scotch Hill and Foch Drive (along Koontz Run and branching eastward on Castle Hill Street and Furnace Street), on Dutch Row which parallels a residential stretch of East Main Street (32), and continuing along East Main Street (including houses on the north and south sides of the street), through the fork of Park Street and including the houses on "D" Street and St. Peter's Place. These areas include approximately 110 homes and churches, and these neighborhoods focus on the Korean War Memorial/World War I monument and surrounding town green below the Presbyterian Church on East Main Street at its intersection with Scotch Hill (also known as Koontz Run).

The houses included in these areas date from the mid 19th to the early 20th centuries. Large numbers of houses such as log houses, frame duplexes, and Italianate brick houses predate the 1881 fire which had little effect on Lonaconing's dwellings. Post 1881, as the town was rebuilt and the population increased, Lonaconing acquired a few prosperous-looking Queen Anne revival houses, many more two story frame I-houses, and a couple of Victorian-eclectic houses with random detailing.

ference to the hilly topography (24) invests these streets (Douglas, Church and Scotch Hill) with a terraced appearance; houses are perched close to one another facing the street in steep succession. Particularly along Douglas Street (20), where porches--whether added later or part of the original design--shelter nearly every entrance, there is a uniform, ascending streetscape unbroken except for the rare, modern replacement houses.

The churches remaining in the district are: First Presbyterian (30) on East Main Street (built in 1867 on land purchased from George's Creek Coal and Iron Company); St. Peter's Episcopal Church on St. Peter's Place (built in 1859, but unfortunately altered and sheathed in aluminum siding in the 1970s); and the Methodist Church (29) on Church Street, another product of the third quarter of the 19th century with truncated entrance tower and fine lancet stained glass windows. First Presbyterian is a simple frame structure with projecting pedimented entrance and louvered west end belfry. St. Peter's is a simpler single story frame building, also with projecting pedimented portal topped by a truncated steeple. The Methodist Church, subsequently resheathed in narrow horizontal clapboards, is noticeably the largest and most elaborately decorated of the three.

Of the residential buildings, chronologically the first important type is the two-room log house of the type built by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company during the first half of the 19th century. An excellent surviving example of this form is the one story, two bay wide Hamilton Log House (AL-VI-B-114) on Dutch Row. This house measures 15 x 15 and features V-notching, hewn logs and chinking composed of mud and pebbles. Though the east gable is clapboarded, the west possesses its original exterior stone chimney. The Company produced log cabins such as this for workers in the 1830s at a cost of \$40 to \$50 with an additional \$18 charged for the chimney.*

*AL-VI-B-114

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET Page 2

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In the mid 19th century, log was also used to construct duplexes, additional Company housing for workers in the mining and iron industries. These log duplexes, exemplified by #11 and #12 East Railroad Street (34 and 35), were sheathed in board and batten as were frame versions of these multiple family residences which became prevalent in the 1850s. The Railroad Street duplexes are two stories high and four bays wide with two entrance doors, one at each corner of the facade. The original sash is 6/6 double hung, and the gable ends are one bay wide with one window at each story.

The frame, board and batten double house is exemplified by a duplex on Beechwood St. (28); it, too, is two stories tall, four bays wide with corner entrances, but its gable ends are two bays wide with 6/6 double hung sash at first and second story levels. This building is typical of mid century company housing, usually providing three or four rooms and sometimes a shed kitchen for each occupant. Double houses constructed in 1856 cost approximately \$400.*

The late 1860s and 1870s produced some individual expressions of prosperity which continue to contrast with the more regular mass produced housing characteristic of Lonaconing. Three brick houses in the Italianate mode are the McCormick House (AL-VI-B-085) (27) at 86 East Main Street; the Bennett House (AL-VI-B-098) (26) at Church Street; and the Francis House (AL-VI-B-099) on Church Street. The McCormick House is a two story, four bay wide structure, characterized by two, two story projecting tripartite bays flanked by recessed corner entrances. Windows on the first floor are topped by semicircular arches while those on the second story are surmounted by flat jack arches. The entrances feature original doors and hardware as well as two story porches supported by chamfered columns. Two original, corbeled brick chimneys pierce the ridge of the roof. Small ventilators made of glazed headers are located in the gable ends. The house was probably constructed as a mining superintendent's house.

The Bennett House (AL-VI-B-098) (26) was constructed around 1872 on land purchased from George's Creek Coal and Iron Company by David Sloan. This L-shaped dwelling is two stories high, three bays wide, and the brick is laid in common bond. The house's most distinctive feature is the two story polygonal bay projecting from the northwest wing of the house and possessing five narrow windows at each story. These windows, like other openings in the building, are topped by bracketed lintels with zigzag frieze. A deep bracketed cornice and nearly flat roof further distinguish this high style (for Lonaconing) structure.

The Francis House (AL-VI-B-099) also dates from around 1872 and is shaped like the then-popular cube with Italianate decoration, characterized by deeply projecting roof atop large scrolled brackets. The house is two stories high, three bays wide and constructed of brick laid in common bond.

Church and Douglas Streets are probably the two most consistently fine residential streets in Lonaconing. As described above, they feature houses, often with porches facing the street, dating from different periods of the 19th century, but collectively forming a uniform streetscape. On these streets there are particularly good embodiments

*Harvey, p. 83.

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of periods or styles such as some described above and some anomalies such as a c. 1870s two story frame, gable roofed house on Church Street (25). This six bay by two bay section is appended to the front of another gable roofed portion whose ridge is parallel. The facade of the six by two bay portion which faces the street is distinguished by some especially elaborate late 19th century decoration for Lonaconing. For example, a turret is created on one southwestern end of the building by a pyramidal roof which rises above the sixth bay. The windows on the gable ends are multi-paned "Queen Anne" style with small squares on the top sash and clear panes on the bottom. On the first floor, four jib doors are flanked at each corner by two doorways which are themselves elaborated by paneled surrounds (lozenge shaped above diagonal designs on intermediate horizontal panels and vertical panels at base). Some of the openings are further elaborated by pairs of paneled shutters and some by curved lintels. Six Tuscan columns echo the six bay division of the facade.

Another fine example of vernacular Queen Anne, constructed of frame, is the house on Furnace Street (23), its gable end entrance facing the street and sheltered by a four bay one story porch decked with turned balusters and spoolwork. On the west side, a 2½ story turret with conical roof emerges from a rear ell with adjoining twin gables. "Queen Anne" windows of the type described above appear throughout the house which is characterized by an irregular fenestration scheme and a lively pattern of sawtooth shingling on the second stories and various gables above.

Similar distinctive ornamentation, specifically the sawtooth shingles and the multi-paned window occur in the clipped gable of a 1½ story cottage facing Douglas Avenue (21). This more modest late 19th century dwelling features a two bay gable entrance facade and German sided exterior.

Another typical German sided frame house of the same period is located across the street at 7 Douglas Street (22) and possesses a three bay wide gable end entrance of two story height, distinguished by lacy gingerbread ornament under the bed moldings of the cornice and in the diamond lozenge shaped attic window and by the recessed paneled railing of the one story Tuscan columned porch. (This type of porch recurs on Douglas Street sheltering several of the duplex doorways, some of which were built a couple of decades earlier.)

Porches (20 and 24) such as this contribute to virtually continuous streetscapes throughout Lonaconing. On Douglas Street, a Tuscan columned porch with recessed paneled railing exists alongside the same type of porch only with recessed paneled piers. Further up the street a five bay, one story porch is articulated by five slender chamfered columns with openwork slats dominating the railing. These porch variations continue up the street, elaborating the facades of last quarter of the 19th century duplexes, most of which are two stories high and four bays wide across their street facades with corner (end) bay entrances. (The more modest examples are one bay wide on their gable ends while others are two bays deep.) These double houses may differ in their exterior treatment (most are clapboarded or German sided, with some asphalt shingled or subsequently victimized by aluminum siding), but the form and layouts are generally the same (with occasional one bay enlargements).

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Similarly, these double houses are characterized by at least some simple decoration such as the variety of surrounds found on Douglas Avenue (19 and 20), pedimented lintels, beaded fascias, beaded surrounds, lintels coinciding with cornices, double and single light transoms, etc.

Lonaconing features, in addition, its share of late 19th century anomalies such as a German sided, white frame double house on Douglas Avenue (18) which could correctly be dubbed a house of seven gables. The house consists of the intersection of two gable roofed units, at right angles to one another with the longitudinal side of one smaller serving as the street facade. This four bay wide street facade has its first story sheltered by a porch with turned posts and fretwork brackets while its second story features three equal sized gables above the second story fenestration making the windows appear as false dormers.

Duplexes along the railroad track and Railroad Avenue (34 and 35) date from the middle to the late (end of the third quarter) of the 19th century and while original board and batten exteriors are often sheathed in asphalt brick or other recently applied siding, they retain their original configurations if not their original detailing. That is, most are four bays wide, with first and second story openings aligned and doors at the corners with the longitudinal entrance facade parallel to the street. Gable ends are usually one bay wide and feature overhanging eaves, some with bracketed cornices and end chimneys. Some of these duplexes retain their 6/6 sash; some have shed additions on the rear, long facade.

Generally, larger mid-century double houses were built on the streets ascending the hillsides, such as a board and batten one on Furnace Street (33) featuring a one story porch on its entrance facade, 6/6 sash, two bay wide gable end, molded cornice with returns and a gable roofed "L" addition to the rear.

Other board and batten dwellings dating from the late 19th century are more modest double houses of one story with attic, overhanging roof sheltering a front porch and a rear shed addition.

Some prosperous early 20th century houses (17) exist at the northeastern edge of town and include a good example of the neo-rationalistic, boxy house with equilateral hip roof. A central double windowed dormer enlivens the entrance facade, and a four bay, one story porch shelters one entrance. Two over one, and 3/1 sash characterize the windows. To the north (east) of this dwelling is a massive, gambrel roofed house employing numerous forms characteristic of the 20th century colonial revival style. These include semicircular windows in the gable, pents on the gable ends, substantially sized pedimented dormer windows, and a central Palladian window (in the middle of the five bays) on the second story of the principal entrance facade.

The commercial district of Lonaconing contains some exemplary mid and late 19th century buildings, most notably the furnace itself, the First National Bank (AL-VI-B-104) on Main Street, and the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company offices (AL-VI-B-094) on Park Street. The First National Bank, constructed c. 1897 as the Miners and Merchants Bank, is a one-story, two bay wide brick structure exemplifying a prosperous small town's adaptation of the Romanesque Revival style: round arch motifs, multiple

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decorative treatments (varied brick surfaces, stained glass, terra cotta ornamentation), and an unusual angled facade which both conforms to and dramatizes the course of Main Street.

The George's Creek Coal and Iron Company (5 and 6), built by the company in the early years of its operation, c. 1840, is a large L-shaped brick building on a stone foundation distinguished by elaborate brick arched door and window surrounds encompassing recessed panels and ordinary 6/6 sash. A corbeled beltcourse separates first from second story, and in addition plain brick pilasters occur at the corner and bordering the corner bay of the building.

Other architecturally noteworthy structures define the nearly uninterrupted late 19th century townscape of the central business district such as Ternent & Sons Department Store (AL-VI-B-107) on Jackson Street. Still operating as a general merchandise store under the ownership of the original owner's grandsons, Ternent's twelve bay wide Jackson Street facade is enlivened by recessed longitudinal panels beneath a dentiled cornice and segmental arched window lintels above slightly recessed 2/2 sash on the second story. The taller three bay section on the corner features segmental arched openings on the first story; the middle six bay section contains three medium store windows and a modern door while the three bay southeast corner section possesses round arched openings on the first and second stories.

Rosenbaum's Dry Goods Store (AL-VI-B-109) and Eisenberg's Clothing Store (AL-VI-B-108), both located across Jackson Street from Ternent's fared less well than their aforementioned neighbor in terms of subsequent, largely mid 20th century alterations. Ternent's, and most of commercial Lonaconing, were built of brick in the decade following the devastating 1881 fire. Eisenberg's (11 and 12) is a two story, four bay wide building with a ground level facade now partially obscured by modern vertical board sheathing. A two story brick (late 19th century) addition to the west of this is similarly obscured on the first story, but features four segmentally arched window lintels on the second story topped by five recessed long-federal panels in the frieze and a dentil brick cornice above. The 1882 original section possesses a fine iron cornice with Eastlavian incised corner brackets and grooved decoration, and a central pediment emblazoned with the building's construction date. In addition, brick drip molds with keystones enliven openings on first and second stories.

Rosenbaum's is a two story, three bay wide brick building with a modernized first story but still sporting a dentiled tin cornice between first and second stories and above, two handsome archheaded windows (with stone keystones and sills) separated by a tripartite oriel window. The whole composition is then surmounted by an even larger bracketed tin cornice with crown moldings and architrave and the same consoles at each end as below.

The Brady Hotel (AL-VI-B-106) (7), located at 2 Union Street, is a three story, seven bay wide brick hotel with a colonnaded one story porch facing Main Street. A fine late 19th century varnished wood bar with leaded glass cabinets and pictures of native son Pitcher Lefty Grove distinguish the interior of this still functioning hostelry.

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Among the commercial facades on Main Street which deserve extra attention are the Lonaconing Bakery (AL-VI-B-102) and the F.W. Weber Company (AL-VI-B-103), also products of the c. 1890 building boom. The bakery, a two story, three bay wide brick building with first floor storefront, is notable for its jack arch windows under three recessed panels topped by a bracketed cornice with central gable and stylized scallop shell frieze. The F.W. Weber Company is also two story, three bay wide with first floor storefront but is a frame structure rendered special by retention of its original facade complete with large wooden sign, shop windows decorated by bead and reel molding, and original brass hardware on the main entrance. Additionally, the interior has retained its original oak and glass cases and pressed tin ceilings.

The commercial buildings of Lonaconing, in short, are of relatively high quality and stylistic differentiation for a small late 19th century mining community. However utilitarian, these buildings are usually elaborated by some bit of enlivening ornament. In the case of the store with the warehouse on the west side of Union Street just north of Railroad Avenue (37 and 38), it is a series of three parapet walls parallel to the street; the storefront facade is marked by three "panels" of horizontal bricks laid at angles and a kind of matriculation created by stepped bricks at the cornice level. Arched drip moldings top the Railroad Avenue warehouse facade windows and large loading doorway.

In conclusion, to complement this commercial unity, there are stretches of workers duplexes, built together in the mid 19th century such as the streetscape presented by Rockville Row (AL-VI-B-082).

8. Significance

AL-VI-B-113

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Late 19th and early 20th centuries	Builder/Architect	N/A
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: A, C

Summary of Significance:

The Lonaconing Historic District is a 19th and early 20th century urban area, featuring commercial structures, which developed along the town's major transportation route (Md. Rte. 36), Union Street, and a surrounding residential area incorporating most of the town as it evolved during the 19th century. Situated in westernmost Allegany County about 14 miles southwest of the county seat of Cumberland, the district is significant for its wide variety of 19th and 20th century architectural styles reflecting the town's growth and prosperity as a center of Maryland's expanding coal and iron industry. Its buildings, ranging in size and complexity from simple vernacular one-and-two-family log cabins to elaborate Victorian structures in frame and brick, are enhanced by their crowded placement on Lonaconing's closely parallel streets, which correspond in their cuts to the steeply rising mountains surrounding the town to the north and south. The result of these man-made accommodations to the rugged natural environment of George's Creek Valley and to a once burgeoning industrial economy is exemplified and largely intact in the present-day Lonaconing Historic District.

History and Support:

Lonaconing did not exist as a distinct village or town before 1837. Prior to that year, the George's Creek, a distance of 16 miles from Frostburg to Westernport, was one continuous forest, with only scattered settlement throughout the area. Early 19th century geologic surveys of the area had noted that there were large deposits of coal and iron, which were relatively close to the surface for easy mining, and the area was soon to change as entrepreneurs began to export those resources. (1)

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Two such entrepreneurs, John Alexander, an Annapolis merchant, and Philip T. Tyson, a businessman trained in geology and chemistry, purchased a tract known as "Commonwealth" in 1833, which contained 3817 acres along George's Creek at what is now Lonaconing. (2) In 1836, they petitioned the Maryland Legislature for a corporate charter which would permit them to raise further capital for their proposed operations through the sale of shares. Later that year, the Maryland General Assembly granted the right to form a corporation, and the George's Creek Mining Company was formed, given the authority "to open and work such mines of coal, iron and other minerals as may exist on the tract of land on George's Creek known as Commonwealth, now owned by them..." and to "erect and carry on mills and manufactories of iron". (3) A supplementary act was passed on June 1, 1836, which changed the company's name to George's Creek Coal and Iron Company. Capital for the company was provided in part by Baltimore and London investors, and raised through the sale of 3000 shares at \$100 each. (4)

During the next six months, Alexander and Tyson acquired additional acreage in "Beatty's Plain", a tract southwest of "Commonwealth". (5) This purchase boosted the company's holdings to more than 11,000 acres in the valley of George's Creek and Savage Mountain. Earlier geologic surveys had indicated that iron and coal existed in vast quantities, as well as sandstone, limestone and clay. Therefore, it was unnecessary to go off company lands to find the raw materials necessary to construct an iron furnace and manufacture iron. In addition, many stands of white pine, oak, maple, walnut, hickory, locust, ash, and poplar would furnish lumber for industrial buildings, tramroads, and workers' housing. (6)

By 1837, adequate capital had been raised to begin construction of the iron furnace and its related buildings. While Tyson and Alexander wanted work to begin immediately, they soon discovered that their difficulties were more physical than financial. The narrow valley of George's Creek, surrounded by sizable mountains in the densely timbered region, with few if any roads, provided an immediate challenge to the builders. (7) Tyson wrote:

At such a distance...from the seaboard, and in a strange and thinly inhabited district, it was...very difficult to produce the force

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necessary for carrying (the works) on with the the speed commensurate with our desires. Residences for the workmen had to be built, and neither the climate of that region nor its industrial products allowed for their being erected on the same temporary character and materials used on public works in milder latitudes are allowable and usual. So far, too, as the materials for our purposes were concerned, though not distant, they were as yet inaccessible until roads and avenues could be cut to carry them. (8)

The company depended on its own contractors who hired men needed for constructing various parts of the furnace complex, as well as dwelling houses, a store, church, sawmill and other buildings which made up the original village. A Baltimore contractor, for example, was hired to manufacture brick for the operation. He was "required to dig his own clay and provide his own firewood", and was paid \$4.25-\$4.50 per 1000 bricks. By late summer of 1837, approximately 8000 bricks a day were fired on site. (9) Limestone was also quarried on site and burned to provide mortar for construction purposes.

While housing was being erected in the village, many of the men rented dwellings outside the boundaries of the mining estate where they existed nearby. The company also bought some houses and operated them as boardinghouses at a set charge of \$3/week for food and lodging. (10) Records indicate that three types of log dwellings were erected by the company for its employees:

- 1) Simple single family log cabins. These generally consisted in plan of one room dorm and a garret above. They cost roughly \$40-\$50 each, and were erected without chimneys. These could be added for an additional \$18, or built by the occupant for \$6 credit. (11) (see photo #50 as example)
- 2) Double cabins, called "shantees". These were generally 32' square buildings, 1½ stories tall, with roofed porch across the front. Although these had no cellar,

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they were constructed on stone foundations, with mortised and tenoned frame, and were weatherboarded. The inside was to be plastered and painted; the outside whitewashed. In plan, each unit consisted of 3 rooms on the first floor, 1 on the second, with a central chimney serving both units. Ceilings were 9 feet tall on the first floor, 7 feet tall on the second. They contained 12 windows including dormers, and were usually finished by company carpenters. They had good carpenter locks and "good, serviceable hardware". (12) (see photo #33 as example)

- 3) Larger double houses, called "blocks". These structures were erected beginning in the 1850's, and were usually of frame construction, two stories high. Each unit provided two rooms and hall on the first floor, two rooms upstairs. A shed roofed kitchen was attached to the back of the structure, giving the building a distinctive "salt box" profile. (see photo #28 for example) (13)

By 1839, the company had established a village of 700 people in the hopes that the iron furnace, which was the first furnace in the country to manufacture iron using coke, (which was, in turn, produced from bituminous coal), would dominate Maryland's iron industry. (14) The village was known as the "Lonaconing Residency" and purportedly was named for Lonacona, the chief of a group of Indians who once resided on the site. (15) Unlike other company towns in George's Creek, Lonaconing was strictly controlled by the company's superintendents. Each worker had to comply with the rules of the Lonaconing Residency, or face expulsion. This system of total company domination did not end until the 1860's, when the company began to sell off its sizable land holdings.

When the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company first began operations in Lonaconing, it was assumed that the C&O Canal would be completed by the late 1830's and thus provide a transportation artery for shipping iron produced at the plant. Unfortunately, the canal was not complete by 1840 and the company, hampered by unfinished turnpikes and lack of railroad links, began to cut the amount of iron produced. Financial panics and credit crises also

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hindered the proposed expansion of the plant and severely cut English investment in the operation. The furnace continued functioning under leases to different operators, but blew out for the last time in 1856. From this time to the end of the century, Lonaconing would be a town devoted primarily to coal mining.

Although the iron production of the George's Creek Company had ceased, the company's coal mining operations expanded during the 1850's and 1860's. To meet the demand for skilled miners and laborers, immigration increased throughout the period, bringing workers from Germany, England, Scotland and Wales. Eventually, to move the increased amounts of coal being mined in Lonaconing and the surrounding area, railroad lines were built. In 1857, the Cumberland-Mt. Savage Railroad reached the town. In 1864, the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad, owned by another powerful company, the Consolidation Coal Company, purchased the railroad between Piedmont, West Virginia, and Cumberland via Mount Savage. This action, and construction and consolidation of other railroad lines in the late 19th century, made Lonaconing and its surrounding towns what one historian has called "one continuous street and town". (16)

During the period 1870-80, the town continued to grow and prosper. From a population of 800 in 1865, the town had mushroomed to 2,808 people in 1878, and was regarded as the largest and most prominent mining town in George's Creek. The town's business district, which expanded along Main Street and Jackson Street, boomed. So did residential development, up Church Street and Douglas Avenue, and surrounding the commercial district to the south. The town boasted a large general store, two hotels, an opera house, a variety of churches serving different ethnic groups, banks, many civic organizations and two newspapers. (17) The town continued to grow during the 1880's, and an 1887 Maryland business directory noted its population at 4,600. (18)

The last decades of the 19th century were a time of great upheaval for Lonaconing. Disaster struck the town on September 7, 1881, when a fire destroyed 53 buildings in town in three hours. The fire destroyed all of the business district along Main and Union Streets to George's Creek, and burned much housing from the Maryland Hotel to Koontz Run, up Douglas Avenue. (19)

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Three years later in 1884, the most extensive flood to hit the town destroyed many buildings along George's Creek. Many bridges of the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad were washed out, and one bridge of note - a single span bowstring arch bridge - was completely destroyed (see photo #43 for picture of bridge before flood).

Faced with adversity, the town took immediate steps to strengthen and reconstruct the community. In 1882, a volunteer fire company was organized, and much rebuilding was undertaken around the surviving buildings. In 1890, the town officially incorporated, and began laying permanent sidewalks in stone, brick, and concrete. In 1892, a water works was constructed to provide pure water to the town - which solved the problem of a previously impure water supply which had plagued the town in the past and led to numerous typhoid and other epidemics. Other buildings - banks, businesses, shops, and residences - soon were erected as well.

At the turn of the century, Lonaconing had grown even larger, with a population of approximately 7,000. A new industry, the Klots Throwing Company, commenced operations in 1907 at its plant along East Railroad Street. The plant, built for \$100,000, provided the town with a stable employer through the 20th century, processing silk into thread and dyeing various fabric products. During this period, the plant employed 300 people, the majority of whom were women and the wives of miners. (20) In 1914, the Lonaconing Glass Company began manufacturing automobile glass, and the Meyer Brothers Ice Plant manufactured 20 tons of ice per day for sale via the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad. (21) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, Allegany County historians in the early 20th century, described the town as containing "fifty well established business houses, all doing a successful business, including six department stores, eight general merchants, three meat markets, three confectioners, two druggists, two hotels, two restaurants, six grocers, one book and news store, three garages, five billiard rooms, one wagon builder, one smithy, two banks, and two picture houses". (22)

Although Lonaconing had grown to the largest size in its history at the turn of the century, ominous changes in the coal industry in the George's Creek region would soon severely affect Lonaconing's viability as an economic center. Maryland's peak year

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Maryland

of coal production occurred in 1907, and production began declining steadily over the next eleven years. Although production increased during the war years, 1920 marked the last year of overall economic health for the region as a whole.

From the 1920's to the present day, coal production has continuously decreased, corresponding with the general recession of the bituminous coal industry as a whole. With production and prices dropping during the 1920's, profits evaporated. Many companies, incurring large losses, went out of business in price wars which dropped prices even further.

The Depression had an especially hard impact on Lonaconing, as it did on the other Western Maryland towns whose economics centered on coal production. Because of severe competition with West Virginia and Pennsylvania, few profits were made. Some companies continued in operation, selling coal at less than cost, through reduced wages and operations. The balance of the operators, though, simply stopped production, as the economy of the Country grew even worse. One the eve of the New Deal, one Maryland miner wrote, "Conditions here are deplorable, with no future prospects". (23) In Lonaconing, the general population reflected the prevailing severe economic conditions, dropping to a level of 2,426. While the 1933 National Industrial Recovery Act did result in most mines operating nearly every day, profits were unsatisfactory. The greatest physical impact of WPA programs in Lonaconing resulted in construction of stone retaining walls for flood control along George's Creek.

Even though economic recovery was eventually realized in the county as a whole after the Depression, Lonaconing's coal mining industry never fully recovered. Production in Pennsylvania and West Virginia increased tremendously from 1937-1945, and from this point in time it became clear that Maryland would never assume its competitive position.

Though Lonaconing has continued to shrink in population, it has stabilized through limited mining operations and a small group of businesses that continues to serve the community. Today, Lonaconing exemplifies the character of a late 19th-early 20th century mining town, unique to the George's Creek area and Allegany County, because of its cohesive collection of buildings which

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Maryland

reflect the economic growth of this region of the state. At one time the largest and most important mining town in Maryland's coal region, it remains today an excellent example of a turn-of-the-century industrial community.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1) James W. Thomas and T.J.C. Williams, History of Allegany County, Maryland, Vol. I, (Cumberland: L.R. Tittsworth and Co., 1923), pg. 536.
- 2) Katherine Harvey, ed., The Lonaconing Journals: The Founding of a Coal and Iron Community 1837-1840, Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. 67, Part II (Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 1977), p. 536, records the purchase in the Allegany County Land Records, liber T, folio 298.
- 3) Harvey, Lonaconing Journals, pg. 9, references the incorporation from Maryland Laws, 1835, ch. 328.
- 4) Ibid.
- 5) Allegany County Land Records, liber T, folio 327.
- 6) Harvey, Lonaconing Journals, pg. 10.
- 7) Michael D. Thompson, The Iron Industry in Western Maryland (Hagerstown: Washington County Advisory Committee, 1976), pg. 114.
- 8) George's Creek Coal and Iron Company, unititled report of directors, 1839, pg. 6.
- 9) Katherine Harvey, "Building a Frontier Ironworks: Problems of Transport and Supply", Maryland Historical Magazine, Vol. 70, No. 2 (Summer, 1975): pp. 154-155
- 10) Katherine Harvey, The Best Dressed Miners (Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1969), pg. 77.

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Footnotes (continued)

- 11) Harvey, Lonaconing Journals, pp. 18, 25, 47 note entries in unpublished George's Creek Coal and Iron Company journals, for following dates: September 18, 1837; January 18, 1838, and; March 4, 1839.
- 12) Harvey, Best Dressed Miners, pp. 78-82.
- 13) Ibid., pg. 83.
- 14) The Lonaconing Iron Furnace was listed separately in the National Register of Historic Places on June 19, 1973.
- 15) J. Thomas Scharf, History of Western Maryland, Vol. II (Philadelphia: L.J. Everts, 1882), pg. 1499. See also Fred T. Bowden, Jr. "Brief History of Lonaconing", n.d., n.p.
- 16) Harry I. Stegmaier, Jr. and David M. Dean, Gordon E. Kershaw, John B. Wiseman, Allegany County: A History (Parsons, W.Va.: McClain Printing Company, 1976), pg. 142.
- 17) Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, pg. 540; Stegmaier et al., Allegany County: A History, pg. 133.
- 18) The Maryland Directory and State Gazeteer: 1887 (Baltimore: The Baltimore Publishing Company, 1887), pg. 29.
- 19) Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, pg. 542.
- 20) Ibid., pg. 545. See also tape recording of oral interview of Charles Wesley Duckworth, "Lonaconing Silk Mill", Appalachian Regional Collection of the Allegany Community College, April 22, 1977. The plant is significant as only one of two silk mills ever built in Allegany County. It still contains the majority of its original equipment.
- 21) Thomas and Williams, History of Allegany County, pg. 545.
- 22) Ibid., pg. 544.
- 23) Harvey, Best Dressed Miners, pg. 368.

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National Register nomination form for Lonaconing Iron Furnace, Annapolis, Maryland.

Oral Tape Recording, Charles Wesley Duckworth. "Lonaconing Silk Mill". Appalachian Regional Collection of the Allegany Community College. Taped by Tim Cooper, April 22, 1977.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Western Maryland, 2 Vols. Philadelphia: L. J. Everts, 1882.

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Continuation sheet Lonaconing Historic District
Allegany County, Maryland Item number 9 and 10 Page 16

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Allegany County
Maryland

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Thomas, James W. and T.J.C. Williams. History of Allegany County,
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Thompson, Michael D. The Iron Industry in Western Maryland.
Hagerstown: Washington County Advisory Committee, 1976.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Lonaconing Historic District were drawn to encompass the greatest concentration of historic resources within Lonaconing which retain integrity of form, materials, location, feeling, and association. Steeply rising topography defines the northern and western boundaries. The areas to the south-west, east and southeast, outside the district, are characterized by resources of date and type similar to those included in the district; however, these buildings are excluded because their integrity has been severely compromised by incompatible recent alterations and infill construction.

9. Major Bibliographical Reference

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See Continuation Sheet No. 15

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 125 acresQuadrangle name Lonaconing, MD - W.VAQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	1 8	6 7 4 2 2 0	4 3 8 2 3 6 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 8	6 7 2 9 6 0	4 3 8 1 8 6 0
E			
G			

B	1 8	6 7 3 5 7 0	4 3 8 0 9 8 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Boundaries are indicated on the attached map, and consist mainly of the rear property lines of the properties and curb lines of the streets indicated. For BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION, see Continuation Sheet #16.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

1. Form Prepared By

Mark R. Edwards, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, and
name/title Ellen K. Cox

organization Maryland Historical Trustdate October, 1981street & number 21 State Circle, Shaw Housetelephone (301) 269-2438city or town Annapolis,state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

8-11-85title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Lonaconing Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Area within the Lonaconing Corporate Limits

CITY, TOWN

Lonaconing

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT

☐ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☒ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple Ownership

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lonaconing

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

21539

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

ALVI-B-113

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Lonaconing is located approximately fourteen miles southwest of Cumberland, Allegany County, Maryland. George's Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River, runs in a southerly direction through the town. The town is laid out along Main Street, which nearly parallels the creek. The original George's Creek Coal and Iron Company Iron Furnace is located at the center of the town near the intersection of Park and Main Streets. As the iron industry and various coal mines developed, the town grew up the sides of the surrounding hills, with the heaviest concentration of dwellings and small businesses south and east of the original furnace.

As a result of the fire of 1881, the oldest structures in Lonaconing are located on the fringe of the main commercial district. These include log structures (remodeled and in original condition) and frame saltboxes and an occasional brick forman's house, all constructed by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company. Houses such as those located on Rockville Row are one and one half story frame structures on stone foundations. There are porches along the street which protect the two halves of the duplex buildings. Each unit has a door flanked by two windows at ground level and two small windows in the half story. A central chimney served the heating needs of both units. Small shed-roof summer kitchens are located at the rear of the majority of the houses. All the houses are in fair condition and all are still inhabited.

The oldest existing structure of mid-nineteenth century industry in Lonaconing is the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company's Furnace No. 1. It is located in the backyard of the Central Elementary School on East Main Street. "The furnace is a truncated square pyramid 50 feet high, 50 feet square at the base and 25 feet square at the top. The construction is of sandstone blocks reinforced by wrought iron binders. The furnace is built at the base of "Dug Hill" now known as "Scotch Hill." Some portions of the wing (retaining) walls remain."¹ The furnace is now in deteriorated condition. Located just north of the furnace is a brick office building constructed by the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company during its early years of operation.

The only other industrial site in the eastern half of the town is Klots Throwing Company which dates from the first quarter of the 20 century. The factory is located southeast of the furnace and is a massive brick building. Klots Throwing Company was one of two silk mills which operated in Allegany County. The plant employed mainly women whose husbands worked in the mines and processed raw silk into the thread needed for fabric.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AEVI-B-113

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lonaconing is a surviving example of a 19th century coal town. It is spread unevenly through a section of the George's Creek Valley and up the sides of the surrounding hills. The central business district is surrounded by narrow streets crowded with company houses. The same hills which define the area geographically originally provided the coal which has been the town's life blood for over a century. Individually Lonaconing's buildings are not great architectural monuments. However, together they exist as a unified example of a late 19th century industrial center that has remained virtually unchanged in the face of the present century.

Very little mention is made of the Lonaconing area which was virtually a wilderness prior to 1837. In that year a syndicate of Baltimore and English investors chartered the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company. By 1839, the Company had established a village of 700 people in the hopes that the iron industry would soon dominate the George's Creek Valley.¹ The village which was known as the "Lonaconing Residency" was named for an Indian Chief, "Lonacona", whose tribe had long since left the area.² Unlike some company towns in the George's Creek Valley, Lonaconing was strictly controlled by the company's superintendents. They were to retain complete control over the town until approximately 1850. Each worker had to comply with the rules of the Lonaconing Residency or he might face expulsion from the community. The superintendent's power even extended as far as the vote.³ That is, he controlled who ran and who was voted for in each election.

When the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company first began operations in the Georges Creek Valley, it was assumed that the C & O Canal would be completed by the late 1830's and thus provide a shipping lane for the iron produced in the Lonaconing Furnace. Unfortunately, the canal was not complete by 1840 and the Company had to close down the business until 1853. Efforts to ship iron without the aid of the canal had proved too difficult and costly. In 1853, the company reopened operations not in iron smelting but in coal mining. Thus from the middle of the 19th century on, Lonaconing was a town devoted to coal mining.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson & Joan Baldwin

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Surveyors

DATE

3/16/77

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-5967

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Description continued - Page 2

Along Main Street, south of these two industries, is the Lonaconing Commercial District. Although the town is in poor condition and several buildings are vacant or for sale, it retains a distinctly 19th century quality which makes it unique in Allegany County. Fortunately or unfortunately, the same poverty and economic depression which has kept Lonaconing from expanding has preserved its turn-of-the-century flavor.

One of the best preserved of these commercial structures is the F. W. Weber 5 & 10¢ Store. Built in the last quarter of the 19th century, it is a frame structure with a bracketed shed-roof and original store front windows with bead-and-reel mouldings. A large wooden sign with the words "F.W. Weber Company 5 & 10¢ Store" emblazoned on it dominates the main facade. The interior of the store remains in near original condition as well. It consists of a single room with numerous varnished oak and glass cases and a pressed tin ceiling.

Another fine example of late 19th commercial architecture is the Lonaconing Bakery, located at 26 Main Street. The Bakery's store front windows are similar to those of the F. W. Weber Company although they are less elaborate. However, the most interesting feature of the facade is the elaborate frieze and bracketed cornice that is topped by a cross gable and two small urns.

Perhaps the most elaborate commercial front belongs to the First National Bank which is located on Main Street near the end of the commercial district. The building is constructed of brick and exhibits the influence of the round-arched Romanesque Style, especially in the treatment of the windows and the doorway. The rock-faced belt course, stained glass and notched brick work also add to the effect.

In its prime, Lonaconing had numerous hotels. Today, only two remain on Main Street, the Maryland Hotel, a large Second Empire Building with a slate covered mansard roof and the Brady Hotel which was constructed in the 1890's and reflects the turn-of-the-century commercial style prevalent in the rest of the town.

The Lonaconing business district stretches to the west end of Main Street and then east toward Jackson Street. Three of Lonaconing's major department or dry goods stores were once located on Jackson Street. Today, only one store, Ternents, is still in business. However, in the early 1900's two other businesses, Eisenbergs and Rosenbaums competed with Ternents for local business. All three are examples of late 19th century commercial store fronts although both Eisenbergs and Rosenbaums have been altered somewhat.

Also located near the Jackson Street business district is Odd Fellows Hall which was constructed in 1867 to serve as a meeting place for the local chapter of the International Order of Odd Fellows. The building is in deteriorated condition today but nevertheless remains a fine example of the Italianate Style used on a large scale. The building has a wide soffit supported by pairs of brackets. Each window has a bracketed cornice with two sets of louvered shutters.

ALM-B-113

Description Continued - Page 3

Near Odd Fellows Hall is one of the only remaining superintendent's homes in Lonaconing. The Schaidt house was constructed in the 1860's and remodeled in the 1890's. The house contains 17 rooms and four baths and is dominated by a huge, turned, wrap-around porch. It was originally frame but has since been covered with asbestos shingles.

A number of buildings aside from commercial structures are of architectural importance in Lonaconing. These include a number of private homes, several churches and three schools. Two of the most substantial private homes in Lonaconing are located on Church Street south of the Iron Furnace. Both the Francis and the Bennett houses were constructed of brick in the 1870's and both are good examples of the Italianate Style with their numerous brackets, and elaborate window and door treatment.

Across the Creek from the Francis and the Bennett houses on Water Street is located one of the only examples of a Queen Anne Style home in Lonaconing. The Burns house sits in a prominent position over-looking the Town and has the plastic, elaborate quality which is so typical of the Queen Anne Style. It is a frame building with elaborately turned ballustrades and several porches.

In the northern area of the town are three churches serving the religious needs of the community. They include St. Peter's Episcopal Church, St. Mary's of the Annunciation and the First Presbyterian Church. All were built on land purchased from the George's Creek Coal and Iron Company during the middle of the 19th century. Both St. Peter's and First Presbyterian were constructed of frame with stained glass windows with plain trim and small louvered belfries. St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church is more elaborate. It was constructed of coursed sandstone in 1865 with a frame belfry located over the west end of the nave. In 1885, a school and convent were constructed south of the church.

The three schools in the Lonaconing area: Central High School; Rockville School and the Beechwood Street School were all built in the late 19th century as part of the County's school building program. Both the Rockville School and the Beechwood Street School are simple, one room frame school buildings. Central High School, on the other hand, is a far more substantial building. The main block is two stories high and six bays wide and is constructed of brick laid in American Common Bond. Two large brick wings were constructed in approximately 1910.

LIST OF STRUCTURES WITHIN LONACONING HISTORIC DISTRICT:

Rockville School Building
Rockville Row
McCormick Brick House
Mellos Log Cabin
Klots Throwing Company
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Keller Board and Batten
St. Mary's School
St. Mary's Church

Description Continued - Page 4

Queen Anne Style House
Meyer's Log House
George's Creek Coal and Iron Company Offices
Park Street Log Cabin
Central High School
First Presbyterian Church
Bennett Brick House
Francis Brick House
Beechwood Street School
Lonaconing Bakery
F. W. Weber Company
First National Bank
Maryland Hotel
Brady Hotel
Ternent & Son's Department Store
Eisenberg Clothing Store
Rosenbaums's Dry Goods Store
Odd Fellows Hall
Schaidt House

BOUNDARIES OF LONA CONING HISTORIC DISTRICT:

Lonaconing Historic District is bounded by lines running in Conjunction with the incorporated limits of the town.

Significance Statement Continued - Page 2

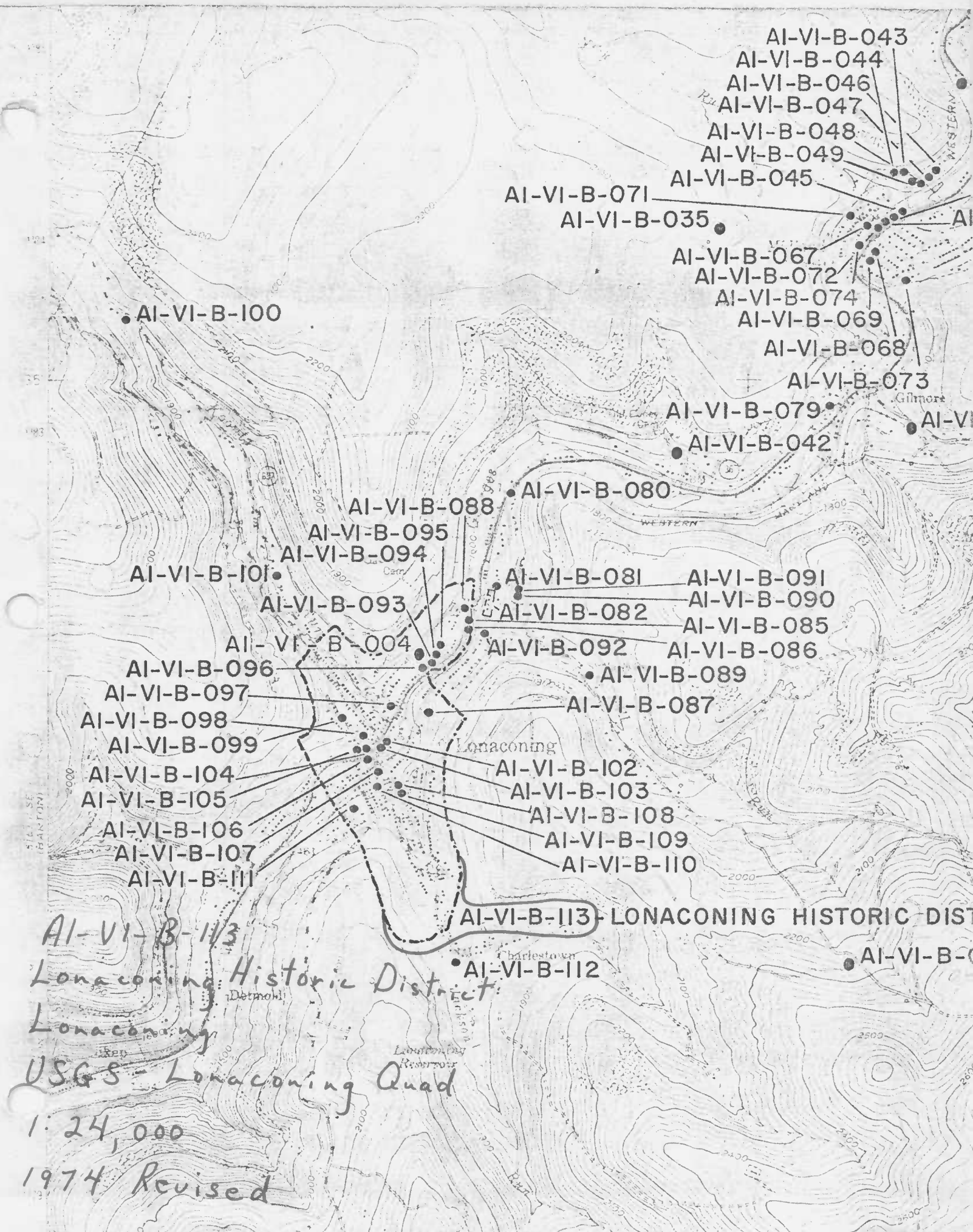
By 1880, a decade before its incorporation, Lonaconing was the largest mining town in the George's Creek Valley. Its population was listed at 2,808 and the town boasted an opera house, a large general store, saloons, hotels, banks and two newspapers.⁴

The last decades of the 19th century were a time of great upheaval for the town of Lonaconing. On September 7, 1881, a fire started on the east side of George's Creek and proceeded to burn for three hours before it was brought under control. Fifty-three buildings were destroyed. Three years later in 1884, Lonaconing suffered a devastating flood.⁵ The combination of flood and fire prompted the town not only to incorporate, which it did in 1890, but to rebuild the majority of shops and other commercial buildings as well as paving the streets and sidewalks.⁶ As a result of the rebuilding which occurred after the fire and the flood, the majority of buildings in Lonaconing today are late 19th century commercial structures.

Lonaconing exemplifies the character of a 19th century mining town. It is tied in exorably to the mining industry and when the mines began to decline in the 1920's, the town died a slow death as well. It was revived somewhat by Klots Silk Mill which operated in the town during the first quarter of the present century. The factory processed raw silk into the thread needed for various fabrics and employed 300 people, the majority of whom were women and the wives of miners.

At the present time, Lonaconing is unique in the George's Creek area if not in Allegany County. For in that it was at one time the largest town of the mining community of Allegany County and in that economic depression has limited building and new construction, the town remains a delightful example of a turn-of-the-century industrial community.

-
- 1 Stegmaier, Jr., Harry; Allegany County - A History, (Parsons, West Va.: Mc Clain Printing Company, 1976) p. 132
 - 2 Ibid, p. 133
 - 3 Ibid, p. 134
 - 4 Ibid, p. 258
 - 5 Ibid, p. 253
 - 6 Ibid



A1-V1-B-11/3

Longwood Historic District

Lona Corning

USGS - Lonaconing Quad

1:24,000

1974 Revised

INVENTORY NO. AL-VI-B-013 /13

DATE: February 10, 1977

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Lonaconing Historic District

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Lonaconing, Maryland

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: _____

NAME OF OWNER: Multiple Public and Private

ADDRESS: _____

Lonaconing, Maryland 21539

STORIES: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5() 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (X) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- (X) BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- (X) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- (X) LOG
- (X) Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: _____

HARDWARE: original() replaced()
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)

original() replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze,
Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, DORMERS # _____

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced()

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER _____ BRICK() STONE() CORBELED() original() replaced()

LOCATION: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior()

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

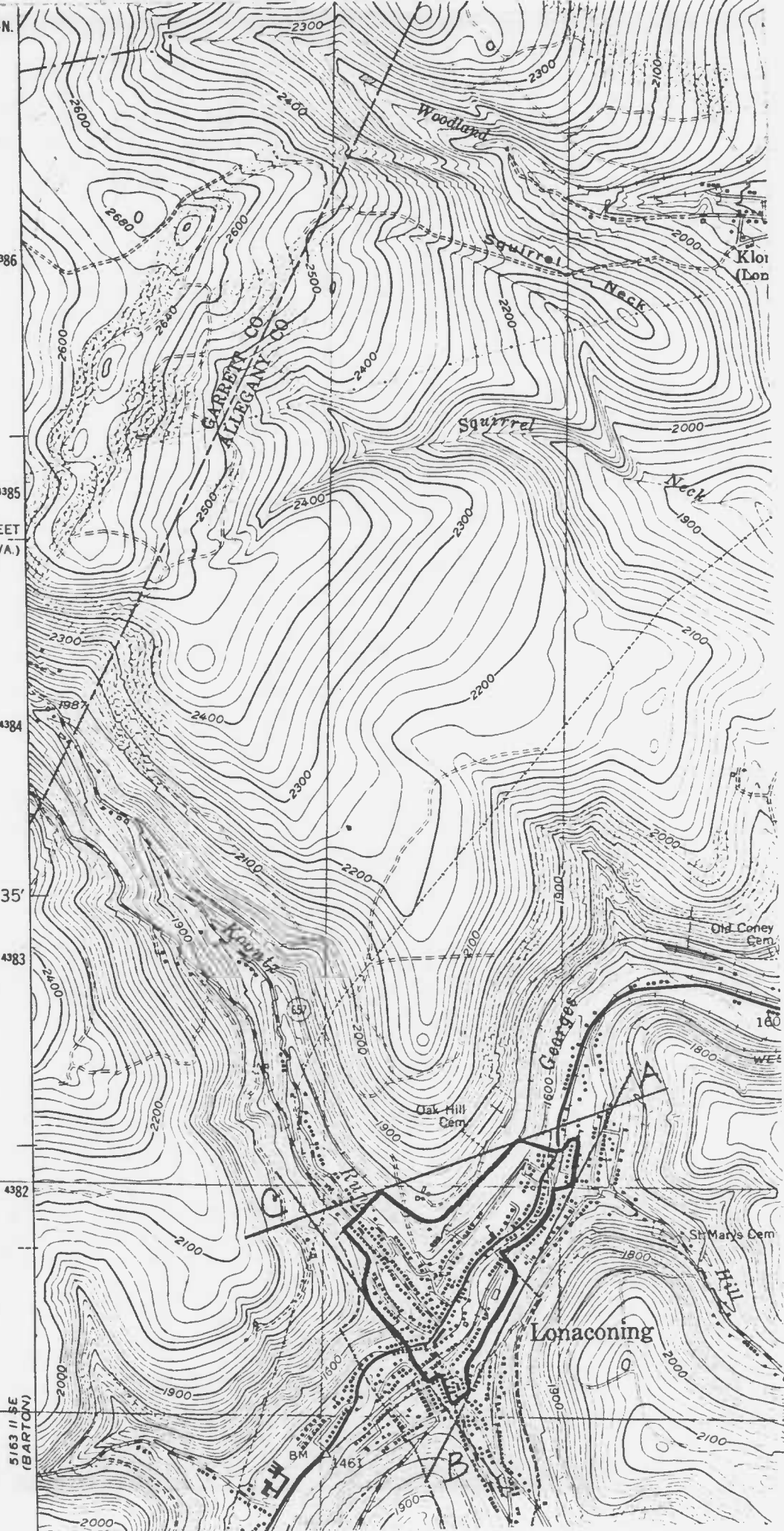
COMMENTS:

Use - Town

Significance - Multiple

Date Constructed - Fire 1881 - Rebuilt

Condition - Fair





A1-V1-B-113

Lonaconing Historic District

Main St., Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

Northeast



AI-U1-B-113

Lonaconing Historic District

Main St, Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

Northeast



AI-UI-B-113

Lonaconing Historic District

Main St., Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

North west



AI-UI-B-113

Lonaconing Historic District

Main St., Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

Northeast



AI-VI-B-113

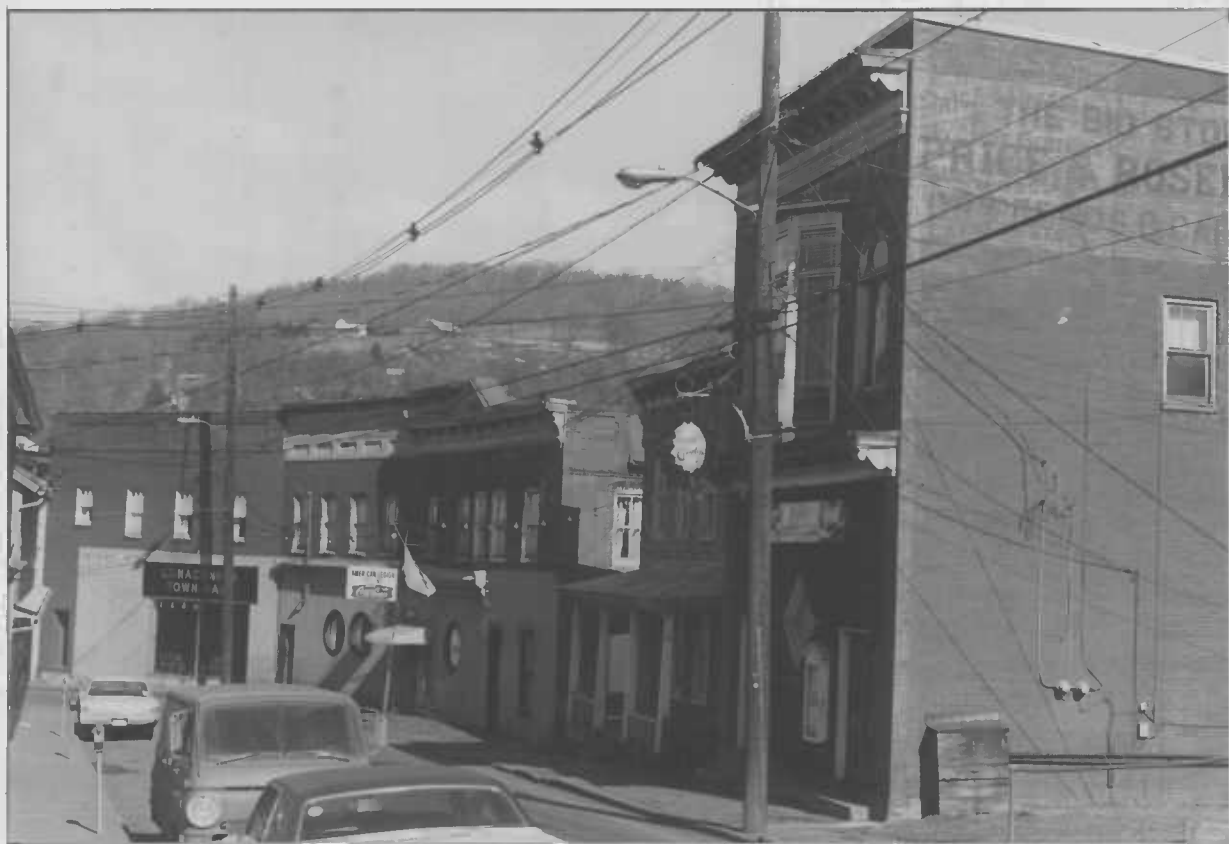
Lonaconing Historic District

Jackson St., Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

Southeast



A1-VI-B-113

Lonaconing Historic District

Jackson St. Lonaconing

2/10/77

John E. Nelson

Northwest



AL-VI-B-113

LONACONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

(commercial bldg)

2/1977 - John Nelson



AL-VI-B-113

LONA CONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

3/16/77 - John Nelson, Joan Baldwin

•



C-113
AL-01-~~11~~-~~111~~

LONA CONING HISTORIC DISTRICT
(MAIN STREET)

FIGURE 56



AL-VI-C-113

LONA CONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

FIGURE 58



AL-VI-C-113

LONACONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

(UNION STREET)



FIGURE 57

AL-VI-B-107

TERNET & SON DEPARTMENT STORE, Longmeadow

2/24/1977- John Nelson & Joan Baldwin



AL-VI-E^B-113

LONACONING HISTORIC DISTRICT

View of Lonacoming from above iron furnace.
Looking south.

Summer, 1991

Mark Edwards



Lonaconing Historic District
Allegany County
1982

Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
Intersection of Union and West Main Sts. looking
S. toward Ternet's Store & Confluence of
Jackson & Union Sts.

1/50

(Brady Hotel, AL-VI-B-106 is at R.)

AL-VI-B-106



Lonaconing Historic District
Allegany County

1982

Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
S. side of W. Main St., looking W. past the
intersection of Union and W. Main Sts. (Brady
Hotel, AL-VI-B-106 is at R.)

2/50

AL-VI-B-113

3



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annap., MD.

S. side of W. Main St., between intersec-

tions of Ayers Alley & of Union St. with

W. Main. (Brady Hotel, AL-VI-B-106, is at R)

3/50

3

AL VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

7

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Hotel Brady (AL-VI-B-106), W. Main St., from

N.W. corner showing W. Main St. facade.

AL-VI-B-106

7/50



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

George's Creek Coal & Iron Co. offices

(ALVI-B-086) Park Street, from S.E. corner.

6/50

6
AL-VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Klots Throwing Company (AL-VI-B-087), East
Railroad St., from N.W. corner showing north
elevation along E. Railroad St.

8/50

8

AL-VI-B-087



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
S. side of W. Main St. between W. Main's inter-
sections with Union St. and Ayers Alley,
looking east (to L)

9/50

AL VI-D-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Alleghany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Ternent & Sons Dept. Store (AL-VI-B-107)

2468 Jackson St., from N.W. corner showing
Jackson St. (L) and Railroad St. (R) eleva-
tions.

10/50

10
AL-VI-B-107



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Eisenberg's Clothing Store (AL-VI-B-108), on

E. side of Jackson St., from S.W. corner of

original (1882) section.

11/50

11
AL-VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

23

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
Queen Anne frame house, late 19th c., on N.side
of Furnace St. (.AK.A. Scotch Hill Rd.) from
S.E. corner.

23/50

AL-UI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
Bennett brick house, 12 Church St. (E. side of
street, N. of its intersection with Main St.)
c. 1872, from S.W. corner showing west
entrance facade.

26/50

26

F.L.V.B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

First Presbyterian Church (AL-VI-B-097), East

Main St, from SE corner, showing gable entrance
with steeple.

30/50

AL-VI-B-097

Pentecostrian Church, LONACONING, MD.



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg; Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

First Presbyterian Church (AL-VI-B-097) S.W.
elevation, early 20th c. photograph from post-
card collection, courtesy of Mr. Feldstein.

31/50

AL-VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District, Allegany County
1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards
Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
Board & batten, 1-story house, mid 19th c.,
N. side of Furnace St (A.K.A. Scotch Hill Rd),
W of its intersection with access road to
Pershing St., from S.E. corner, showing east
gable end.

33/50

33

AL-VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Mid 19th c. duplexes along s. side of Railroad

St., showing NW corner of a board & batten
version situated on eastern corner of Railroad

St's intersection with alley.

34/50

34

A.L. - VI - B - 113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

S. side of Main St., between intersections of

W. Main St. with Star Alley (L) and Ayers

Alley(R. center)

41/50

41

AL-VI-B-183



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982: Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Lonaconing Furnace (AL-VI-B-004) on left and
Central High School (AL-VI-B-096, now a site),
from E. Main St. showing SW elevations,

(Art Work of Allegany County, the W.H. Parish
Publishing Co., Chicago: 1897, part 7).

42/50

AL-VI-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Brady Hotel (AL-VI-B-106) to R, looking south
down Union St. from its intersection with

W. Main St., early 20th c. photograph (courtesy
M. Feldstein collection).

43/50

AL-VI-B-106



UNION STREET, LONACONING, MD.

Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

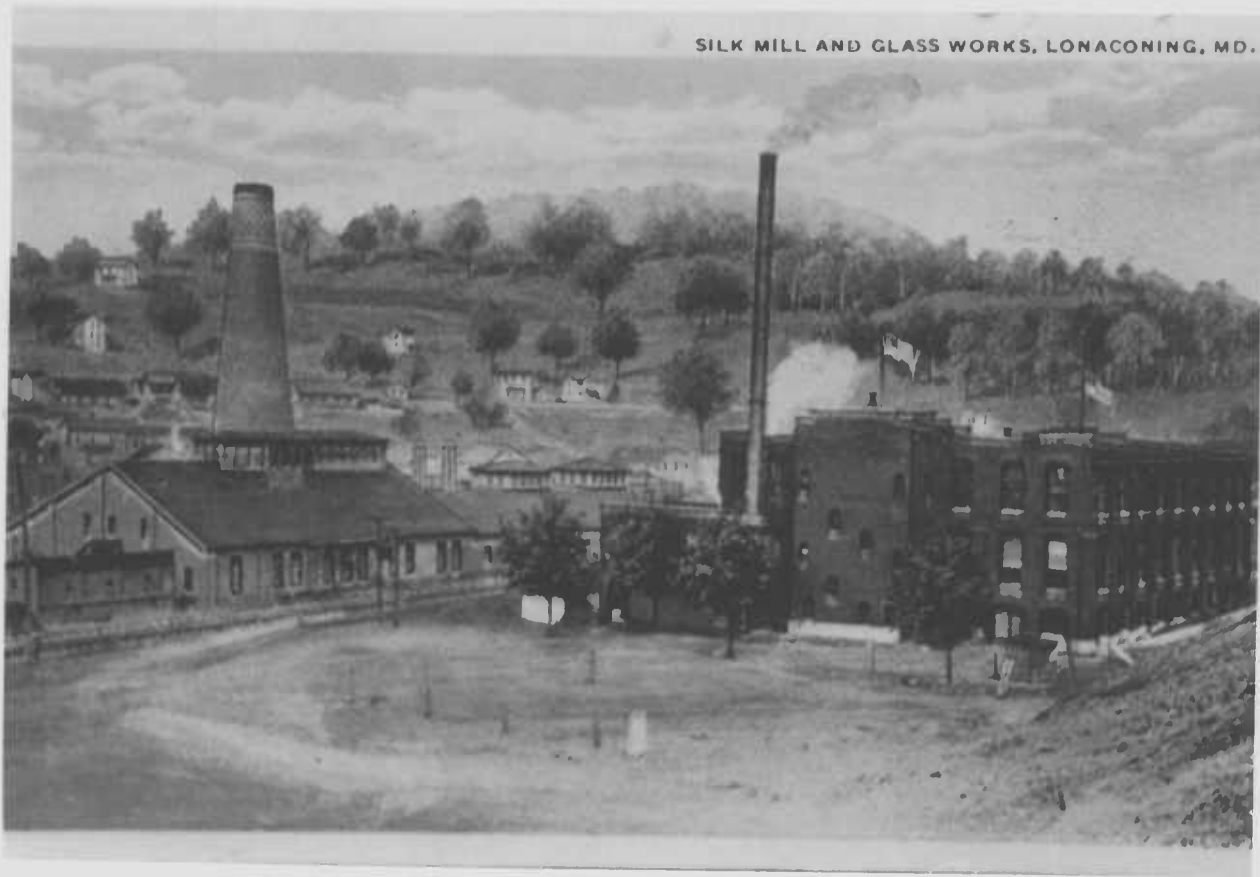
Union St., Lonaconing, looking N. across bow-
string truss bridge toward intersection of

Union and W. Main St. early 20th c. photo

(postcard view, courtesy M. Feldstein) 44/50

AC-VI-B-113

SILK MILL AND GLASS WORKS, LONA CONING, MD.



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

Silk Mill and Glass Works, Lonaconing, early

20th c. photograph (postcard view, courtesy

M. Feldstein collection.

45/50

AL-VI-B-113

Main St.. LONACONING, MD.



Lonaconing Historic District
Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
View of Main St., Lonaconing, looking east past
the intersection of Union & W. Main Sts.
(Brady Hotel, AL-VI-B-106 is at R), early 20th
c. photograph (postcard view, courtesy of M.

Feldstein collection).

46/50

AL-VI-B-103



Lonaconing Historic District, Allegany County
1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.
View of Main St., Lonaconing, looking E. past
the intersection of Union & W. Main Sts.
(Brady Hotel, AL-VI-B-106 is at R), early
20th c. photo (postcard view, courtesy of
M. Feldstein collection).

47/50

AL-VI-B-106



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

View of Lonaconing from the south.

48/50

48

44

AL-VI-B-113

LOHACORHU, MD.



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

View of Lonaconing, late 19th century view.

49/50

49

AL-81-B-113



Lonaconing Historic District

Allegany County

1982 Photo: Mark R. Edwards

Neg: Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD.

AL-VI-B-095 Park Street Log Cabin,
23 Park Street

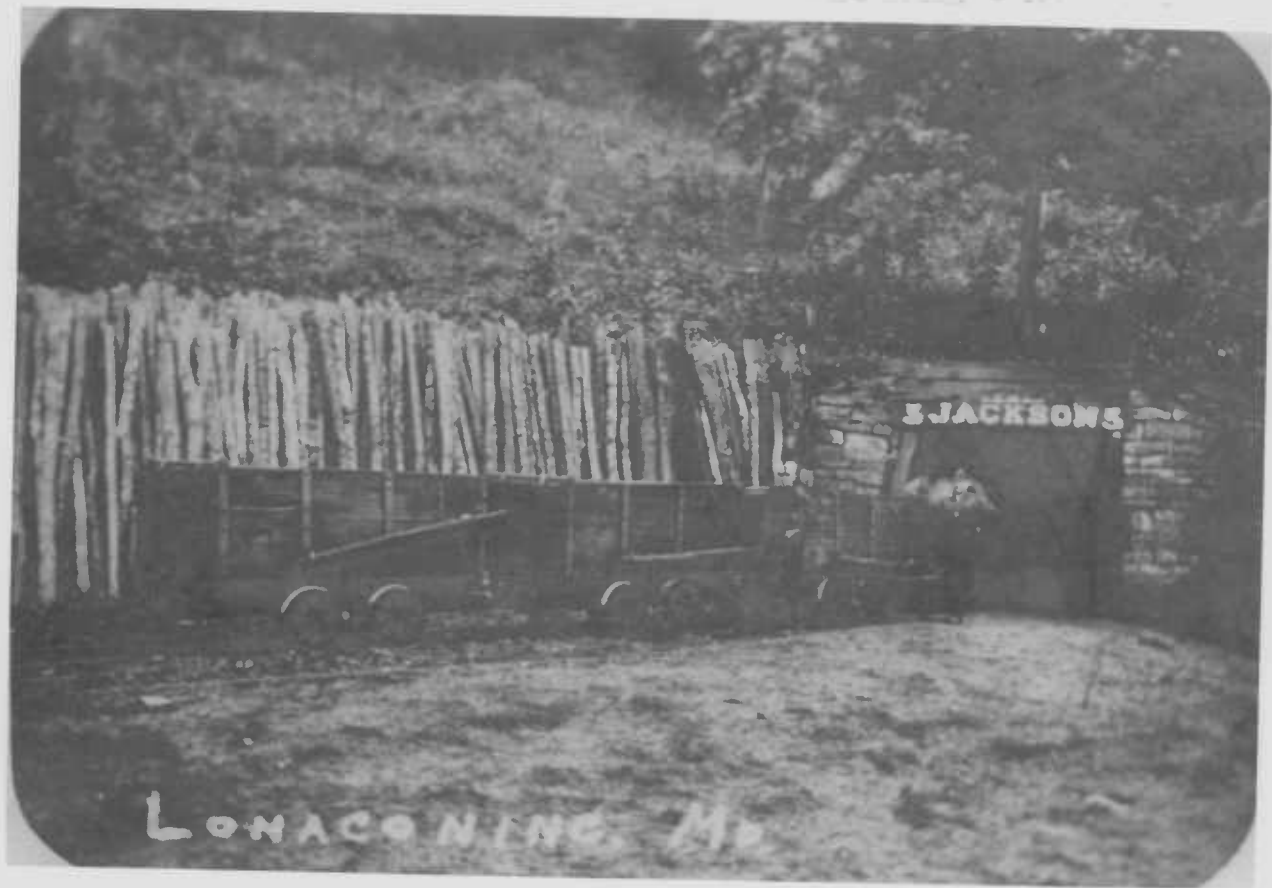
50/50

AL-VI-B-113



Cone's Small Vein Mine
Allegany Co., MD 7/81
D. Dorsey, Photocopy: A1
Feldstein collection

AL-VI-113



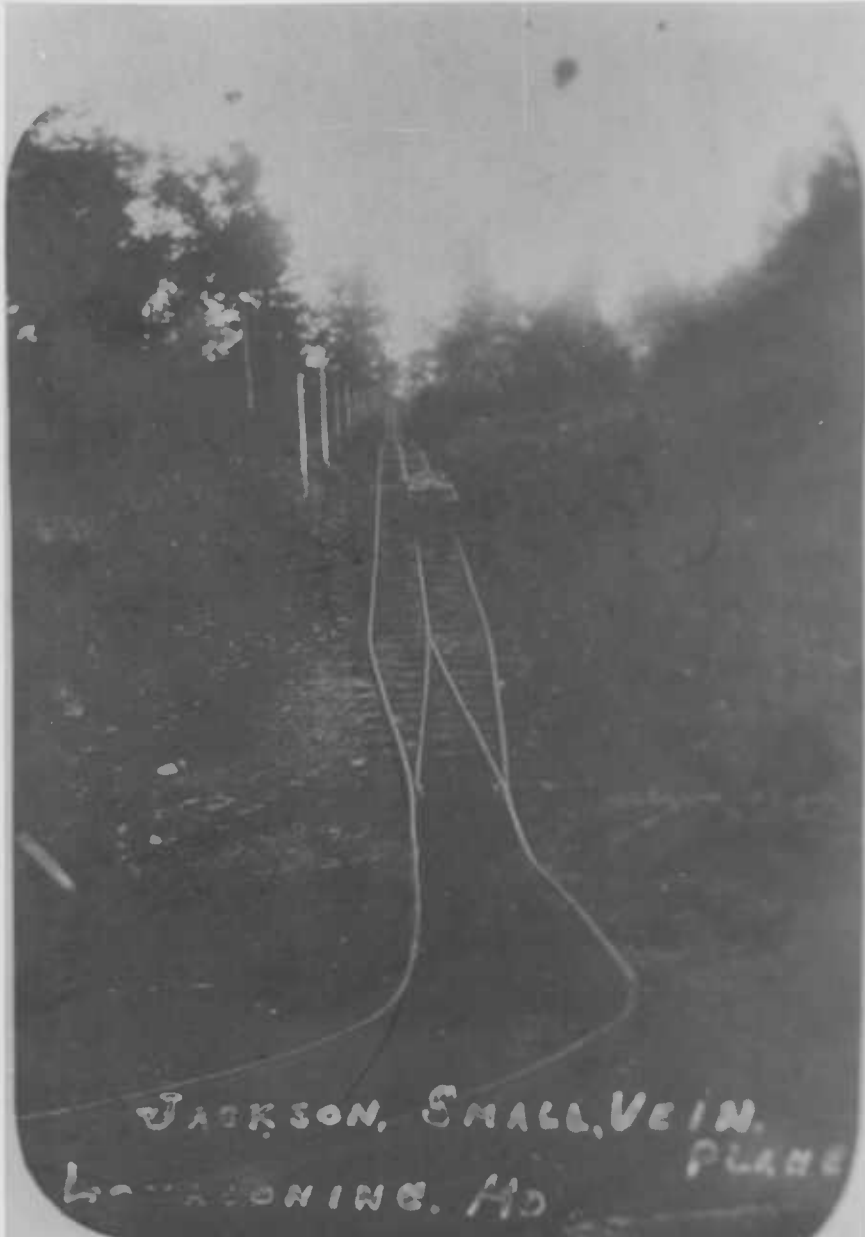
S JACKSONS

LONACONING MO

Jackson Mine
Allegany Co., MD 7/81
D. Dorsey Photocopy: A1
Feldstein collection

12-VI-113





JACKSON, SMALL VEIN.
L-TRONING. No PLANE

Jackson Mine

Allegany Co., MD 7/81

D. Dorsey Photocopy: A1

Feldstein collection

AL-VI-113

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: 50 Douglas Ave, Lonaconing, Allegany Co. Survey Number: Al-VI-113

Project: MHRP Agency: Special Loan Programs

Site visit by MHT Staff: XX no yes Name Date:

Eligibility recommended XX Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B XX C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None:

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The property at 50 Douglas Avenue, Lonaconing, is in the Lonaconing Historic District, listed on the National Register September 15, 1983 and in MHT files AL-VI-B-113. Douglas Street is cited in the nomination as one of the "two most consistently fine residential streets in Lonaconing." Douglas Street features a collective streetscape with houses with front porches facing the street. It is representative of the historic mining community and its typical housing stock. The house is a duplex, four bay with two centered front doors on the first floor with open front porch at street level which has a shed porch roof and simple Doric column supports. The roof has asphalt covering and the windows have previously been replaced in vinyl. The basic integrity of the house and its features is inherent.

Lonaconing was developed with the western Maryland mining industry in the late 1800's. In the 1880's the town suffered fires and flood but choose to rebuild significantly in 1890 including rebuilding its commercial buildings and paving the streets and sidewalks. Its development followed that of the transportation route which became Rte. 36. The mining industry in western Maryland was surpassed by Pennsylvania industries and Lonaconing and its inhabitants were effected by the Great Depression. Much of this effect meant that the town did not wholly modernize. It remains today one of the most intact 19th/early 20th century architectural districts with high levels of integrity in Allegany County, a fact which contributed to its National Register nomination and listing.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Files for Allegany County (AL-VI-B-113) and National Register listed books for Allegany County as Lonaconing Historic District #32.

Prepared by: Fred DeVore, Allegany County Dept. Of Comm. Services, Febr 20, 1998

Lou Ann J. Broad, Preservation Officer March 4, 1998.
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable 3/19/98
Peter Z. Kuntze Date

[Handwritten mark]

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☐ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll,
Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☒ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
and Community Planning
☒ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment Town

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown

AL-VI-B-113

NR HD 15 Sept '83

1880 largest town in mining valley
stage store opera house
hotels banks
restaurants

1890 fire & flood
rebuilt & paved
sidewalks & streets

smack in middle of hd.

NR nomination
AL-VI-B-113

stem 7-p2
"Church & Douglas Street = two most consistently fine residential streets in Lonaconing"

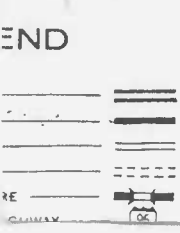
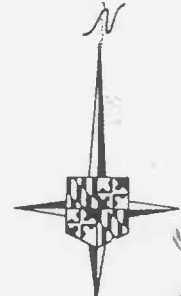
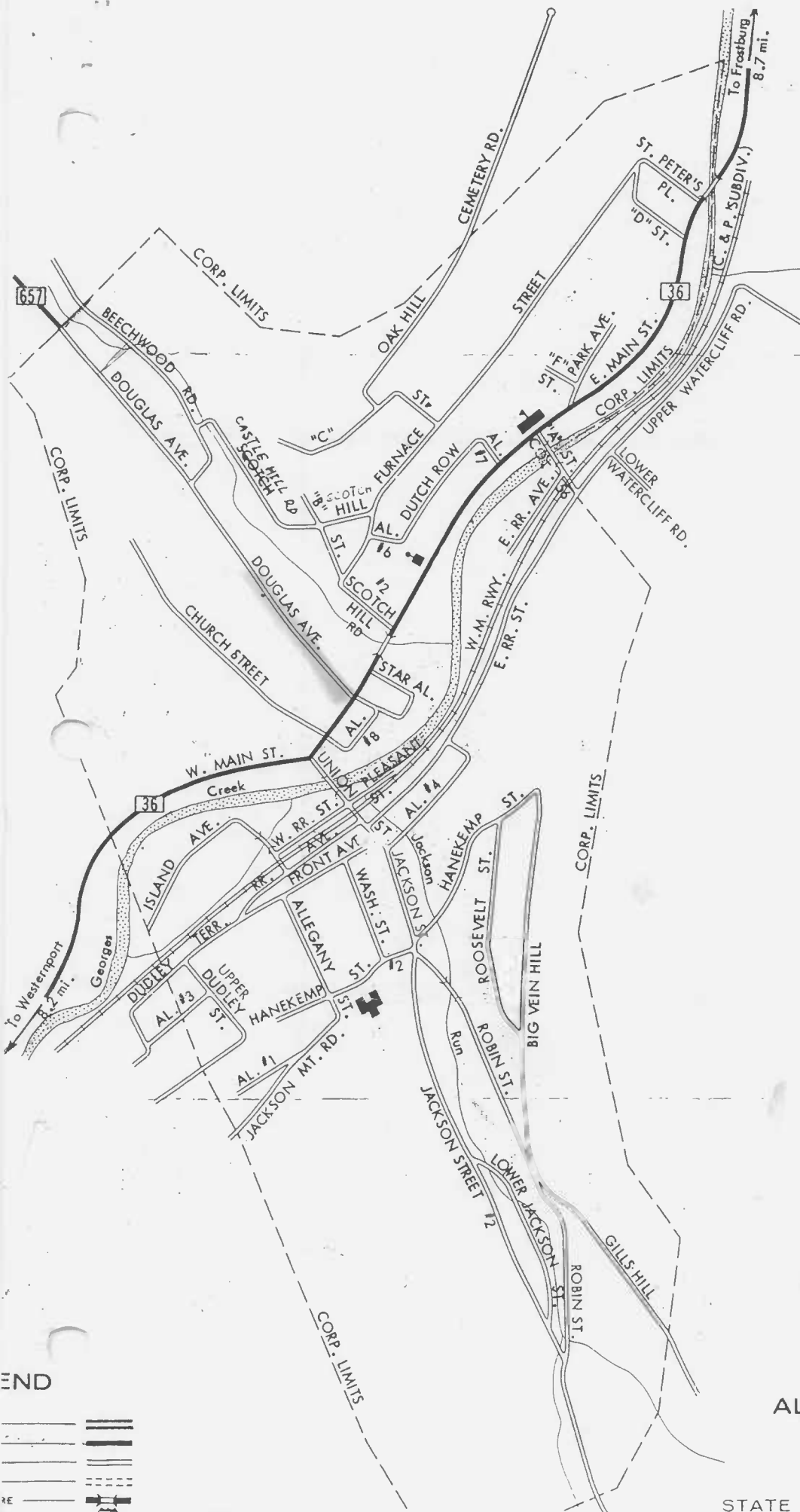
features collective street
scape / porches
facing street 19th
industrial century
transp. rte 36 19th coal
town uniquely full of
integrity in style

LONACONING Co.

ALLEGANY CC

MARYLAND

PREPARED BY THE
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINI



AL-VI-113



50 Douglas Ave., Lonaconing
Daniel Kidwell
(within Lonaconing H.D.)

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: 10 Robbin Street Lonaconing, Allegany Co. Survey Number: AL-VI-B-113

Project: MHRP Agency: Special Loan Programs

Site visit by MHT Staff: XX no yes Name Date:

Eligibility recommended XX Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None:

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The property at 10 Robbin Street is located in and contributes to the Lonaconing Historic District. Lonaconing history is tied to the development of the western Maryland coal industry and all the town within the corporate limits is included in the district. The building at this address has had prior treatment including vinyl siding and vinyl window replacements and displays minor alterations such as a small entry vestibule at the rear of the house. However, the basic form is apparent and it would still qualify as a contributing resource to the district under criterion C for architecture.

The building is proposed for rehabilitation under the MHRP program and would utilize vinyl replacement windows.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Files for Allegany County eligible historic districts.

Prepared by: Linda Martin, Allegany County Dept. Of Comm. Services, Febr 20, 1998

Lou Ann J. Broad, Preservation Officer March 18, 1998.

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes no not applicable 3/19/98

Reviewer, NR program Peter J. Kuntz Date

any

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT**I. Geographic Region:**

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
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☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaption

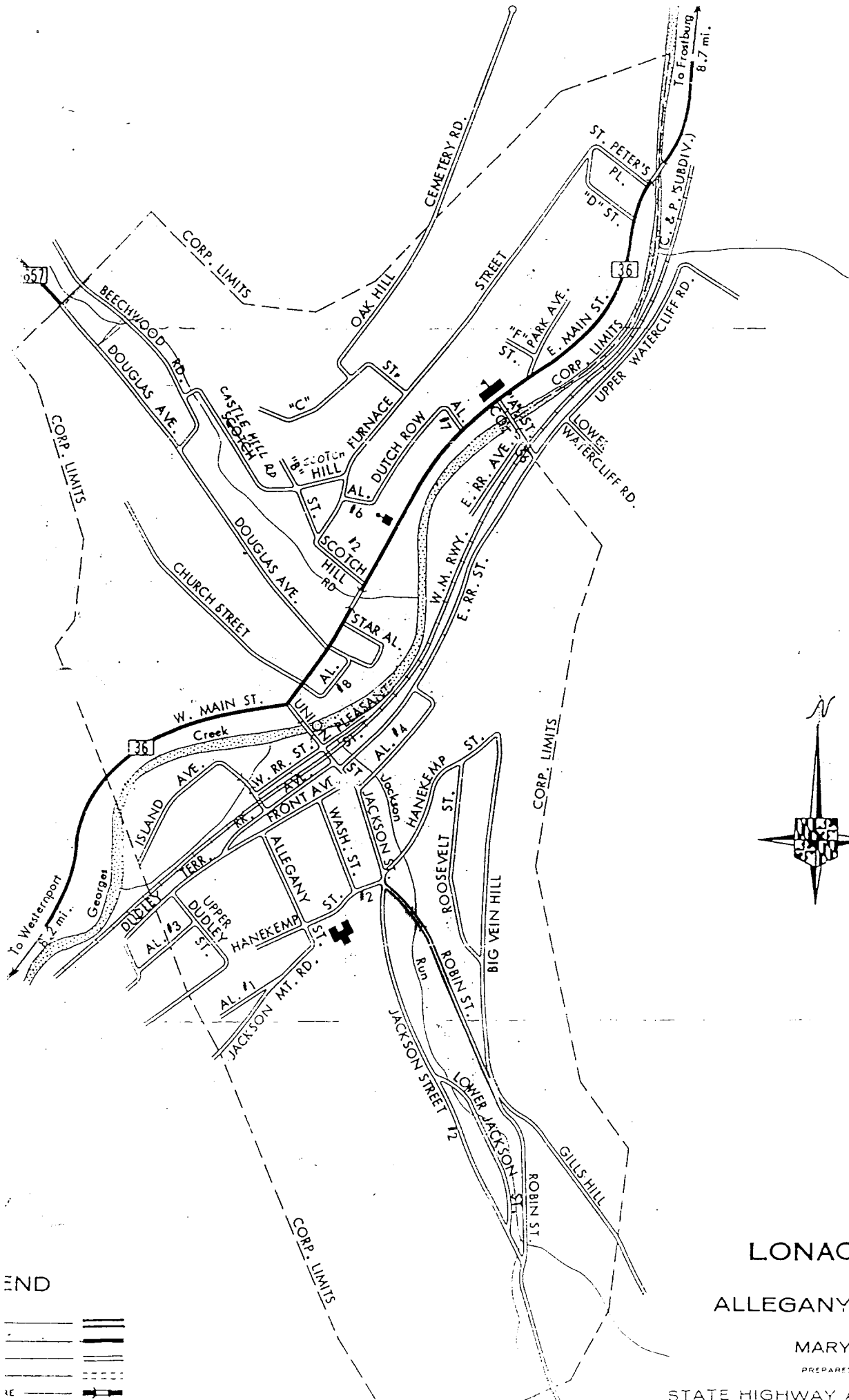
IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
 and Community Planning
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

V. Resource Type:Category: BuildingHistoric Environment TownHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic Dwelling

Known Design Source: Unknown

ALVI-B-113

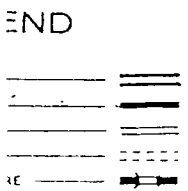


LONACONVILLE

ALLEGANY CC

MARYLAND

PREPARED BY THE
STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION



AL-VI-B-113



10 Robbin Street
Lonaconing, Md..
Cutter

B. Kuntz 2/29/00
Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☐ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☒ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
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☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

☐ Subsistence
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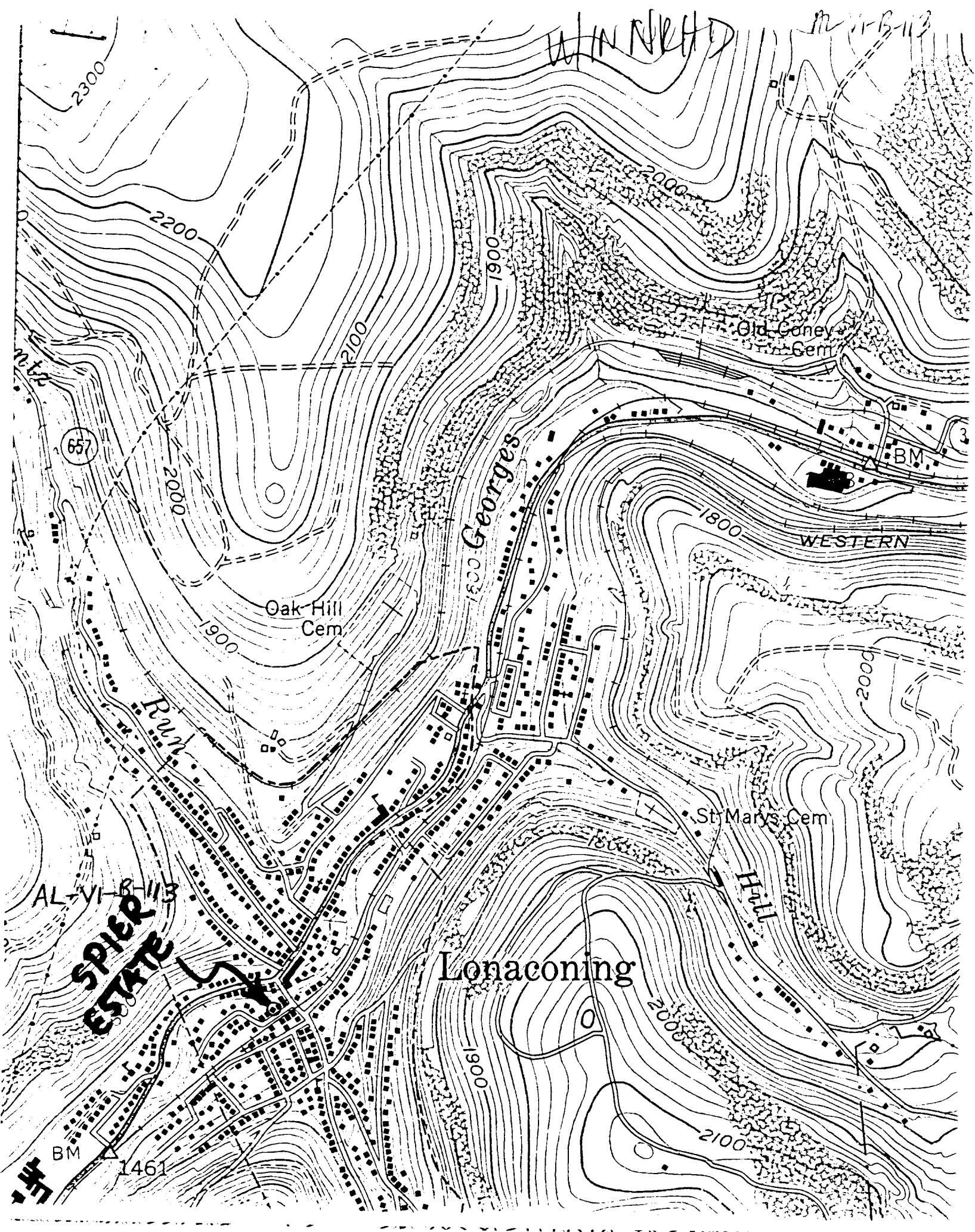
IV. Historic Period Themes:

☐ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
☒ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: buildingHistoric Environment: villageHistoric Function(s) and Use(s): domestic dwelling

Known Design Source: _____





SPIER ESTATE

AL-VI-B-113

3 RAILROAD ST

LONGFORD, MD

ALLEGANY CO MD

DAVID A DORSEY

6/17/99

MD 3270

Two story frame duplex dwelling

Dwelling Eastern corner

2 OF 6



SPIER ESTATE

AL-VI-B-113

3 RAILROAD ST LONA CONING

ALLEGANY CO. MD.

DAVID A. DORSEY

7/16/99

MD SHPD

two story frame duplex dwelling

Dwelling SE Elevation

1 of 6



SPIER ESTATE AL-VI-B-113
3 RAILROAD ST LONGBRIDGE
ALLEGANY CO., MD.

DAVID A DORSEY

6/17/99

MD SWPO

two story dwelling duplex

NE elevation

3 OF 6



SPIER ESTATE AL-VI-B-113

3 RAILROAD ST CONRODING
ALLEGANY CO MD

DAVID A DORSEY

H-1/10

MD SHPO

Frame

two story duplex dwelling

NEW Elevation

4 of 6



SPIELFELT

AL-VI-B-113

ALABAMA CO. MD

DAVID A. DORSEY

6/17/99

MD SHPO

two story frame duplex dwelling

SW elevation

5 of 6



3218 R ESTATE

AL-VI-B-113

3 RAILROAD ST CONA CON 13

ALLEGANY CO MD

DAVID A DUBOY

6/17/99

MD SHED

two story frame duplex dwelling
garage

NE elevation

0 of 6